

What is 7-1-1?

7-1-1 is a telephone service that connects standard (voice) telephone users and users who are deaf, hard-of-hearing, and/or who have speech disabilities and use text telephones (TTY).

7-1-1 is easier to remember and use than traditional 800 relay numbers.

It creates more user-friendly access for less experienced relay users, including businesses and friends or family members of TTY users.

7-1-1 is not an emergency number and should not be confused with 9-1-1. However, if you use a TTY and cannot obtain emergency services on 9-1-1, you may call 7-1-1 and tell the Communications Assistant (CA) you have an emergency. The CA will then relay your call to the appropriate emergency service provider.

Dial 7-1-1 or use these toll free Alabama Relay numbers.

1-800-548-2546	1-800-548-2547	1-800-548-0259
TTY/ASCII	Voice	Voice Carry-Over
1-800-548-2928	1-800-548-8317	1-900-646-4323
Speech-to-Speech	Spanish (TTY/Voice)	900 Services

Sprint Relay Customer Service	Servicio al Cliente de Sprint Relay
1-800-676-3777	1-800-676-4290
TTY/Voice/ASCII	TTY Voz ASCII

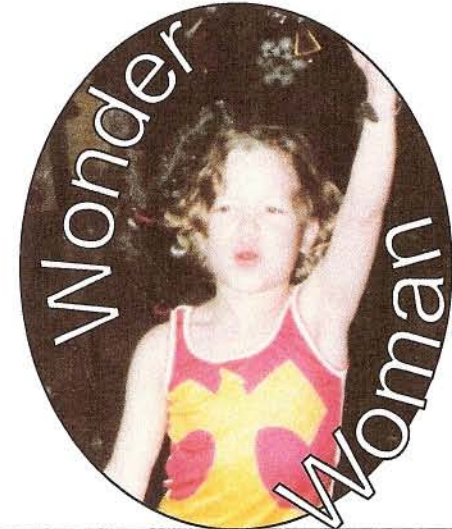
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Sprint is offering these services effective March 1, 2004.



*Congratulations,
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Woman...we
knew you could do
it!*



Thank you, Pete and Don, for helping us with the printing of the Convention program book! We appreciate your gracious donation!

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OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

BOB RILEY
GOVERNOR



STATE CAPITOL
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130

(334) 242-7100
FAX: (334) 242-0937

STATE OF ALABAMA

Greetings:

As Governor of the State of Alabama, I am pleased to welcome you to the 2007 Biennial Conference of the Alabama Association of the Deaf (AAD).

On this occasion, I want to take a moment to commend the AAD for its commitment and efforts to improve the lives of the deaf and hard of hearing in our state. Thank you for the services that you provide to the citizens of Alabama.

I hope that everyone has an enjoyable and beneficial experience while participating in the workshops and training sessions. I am confident that this year's conference will provide an invaluable opportunity to build support networks, gather resources, and learn new skills for your future success.

Again, welcome to the 2007 Biennial Conference. May God bless you all with continued prosperity, health, and happiness.

Sincerely,

Bob Riley

Bob Riley
Governor

BR/ps/rs





**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF BIRMINGHAM**

BERNARD KINCAID, MAYOR

April 19, 2007



Alabama Association of the Deaf
Birmingham, Alabama

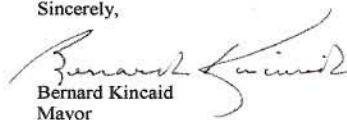
Dear Friends:

On behalf of the Office of the Mayor and the City of Birmingham, it is a distinct pleasure to welcome the members of the Alabama Association of the Deaf to our great City. We are pleased to have you here for your Biennial Convention, an important event, which I am certain will contribute to the social and economical enrichment of our community.

During your stay in the "Magic City," I hope you will avail yourselves of the many amenities we have to offer. You will find that Birmingham is a city on the move, as evidenced by the continued growth of our business and industrial sectors, the addition of new and expanded hotel and convention facilities, our thriving cultural and entertainment districts, and a strong sense of progress and civic spirit. All of these things contribute to the special quality of life which endears Birmingham to residents and visitors alike.

Again, I am pleased to welcome this outstanding organization to Birmingham, and extend my best wishes for a most enjoyable event!

Sincerely,


Bernard Kincaid
Mayor

BK/cj

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Alabama Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf supports

The 41st Biennial Conference of AAD “Embrace the Future: Make a Difference!”

Our membership consists of:

- Certified/Licensed Professional Interpreters
- Not Yet Certified/Permitted Interpreters
- Deaf and Hard of Hearing Individuals
- Anyone Interested in the Interpreting Profession

Won't you join us as we “Embrace the Future”
with AAD?

Together we can “Make a Difference!”



For more information on ALRID please visit www.alrid.org



National Association of the Deaf
8630 Fenton Street, Suite 820
Silver Spring, MD 20919

www.nad.org

Greetings!

It is my honor, on behalf of the National Association of the Deaf (NAD), to extend a warm welcome to all in attendance at the 41st Biennial Alabama Association of the Deaf (AAD) Conference in Birmingham, AL. The theme for this year's conference, *Embrace the Future: Make a Difference!* is particularly appropriate given the many achievements of AAD to date, and the fact that AAD is looking ahead to future possibilities and opportunities.



The AAD has a long and rich history of advocacy successes on behalf of the deaf community of Alabama. Equally as important, we see the commitment of AAD and its partners in working together toward common goals – for the greater good of the state and the American deaf community. We are also appreciative of the valuable support that the AAD has given to the NAD on advocacy issues of national importance.

Many of our hard earned civil and accessibility rights are still under threat. The NAD looks to its State Association affiliates for support in this regard. The NAD is also focused on long-range (Vision 2020) strategic plan development, also with an eye to diversity, so that it can more effectively tackle challenges that lay ahead. The AAD, as a state association affiliate of the NAD, is an important partner in this effort. With this in mind, we look forward to seeing many people from the great state of Alabama at the 49th Biennial NAD Conference next year in New Orleans (watch for details as these unfold at www.nad.org).

Again, my warmest wishes on behalf of the NAD to all in attendance for a highly successful and enjoyable 41st Biennial AAD Conference!

Sincerely,

Bobbie Beth Scoggins

Bobbie Beth Scoggins
President



Alabama Association of the Deaf, Inc.

Affiliated with National Association of the Deaf

June 4, 2007

Greetings!

Welcome to Birmingham for the Alabama Association of the Deaf's 41st Biennial Conference. *Embrace the Future: Make a Difference!* is a fitting theme for this year's conference, given the future's always-changing horizon.

AAD continues to seek ways to involve all deaf and hard of hearing people in Alabama, and have them become interested and understand the value of AAD. We have successfully launched the affiliation approach – having various organizations affiliate with AAD to make even more of a difference – but we do have more work to do. That's where you come in. With your support, involvement and ideas, we can embrace the future and make a difference together.

We are grateful that the Alabama Division of Rehabilitation Services (ADRS) sees the same value in AAD. It was a thrill to see ADRS sponsor a college student to attend the National Association of the Deaf Conference in Palm Springs, CA, last year, and it is a bigger thrill to see that ADRS is sending three students to the AAD conference this year to learn about leadership. This commitment to making a difference is exactly what our conference theme is all about.

I must take a moment to thank our chairlady, Shannon Reese for her untiring efforts in organizing the conference. Thanks also must go to all of the members of the AAD Executive Board for their part in making the conference possible.

Again, welcome to the conference. Let's make *Embrace the Future: Make a Difference!* a reality!

Yours in AAD,

Judith M. Gilliam
President



Organized in 1912 and Incorporated in 1965



The Alabama Ear Institute (AEI) is a 501 (c)(3) not for profit foundation dedicated to improving the lives of children and adults who are deaf or hard of hearing, as well, as their families. AEI accomplishes its mission by means of education, research, and family oriented, culturally competent programs and services. AEI is also active in the social and public policy arena as it serves as both a provider of the latest information for interested parties and as an advocate for individuals with hearing loss.



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A support network for
parents of children with
hearing loss or
deafness

AEI AMP

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www.alabamaearinstitute.org

TOGETHER WE CAN...

The Office of Deaf Services at the Alabama Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation is proud to partner with the Alabama Association of the Deaf in their efforts to improve the lives of Deaf Alabamians.

AAD—ODS A Proud Partnership in Service to Deaf Alabamians

Office of Deaf Services

Providing Deaf Alabamians with Linguistically and Culturally Affirmative Services through:

REGIONALLY BASED COORDINATORS

Our coordinators who specialize in working with people who are deaf or hard of hearing are based in community mental health centers; these coordinators are the first point of contact for services.

THE BAILEY DEAF IN-PATIENT UNIT

The Bailey Deaf Unit is located Clark Hospital in Montgomery. It has 10 beds, with two beds designated as statewide psychiatric crisis beds for deaf people.

SMALL GROUP HOMES

Located in Birmingham and Mobile, our residential services are made up of a series of three-person group homes. These homes will serve as "intermediate care" options, helping people who are ready to leave the Bailey Unit, but not ready to live independently in the community.

STATEWIDE OUTREACH

Through publications, training, and online opportunities we are helping to make more people deaf and hearing aware of the needs of Deaf Alabamians.

For more information about our programs and services, email Steve.Hamerdinger@dmh.alabama.gov



ODS OUTREACH

Community Training

ODS staff provide community education on a wide range of topics at no charge to deaf community groups.

Disaster Assistance and Counseling

ODS staff provide community education on preparedness and counseling to survivors.

ODS Operated List Serve

To keep you informed of important news and events in mental health and deafness we operate:

ALDMH

Deafness and Mental Health Issues

ALMHI

Mental Health Interpreters

TERPINFO

General Interpreter Information Alabama

For More Information Contact Steve.Hamerdinger@dmh.alabama.gov

Read our newsletter at:
http://www.dmh.alabama.gov/ODS_AvailableDocuments.htm



Office of Deaf Services
Alabama Department of Mental Health and
Mental Retardation
P.O. Box 30148
Montgomery, Alabama 36103



Alabama Association of the Deaf,

June 11,

Hello Everyone and Welcome to the 41st Biennial AAD conference!

We have wonderful things planned for you! "Embrace the Future: Make a Difference!" is truly a theme we wanted to emphasize this year. Why? Because AAD has made a difference here in the state of Alabama! You might ask yourself, "How is that possible?" The answer is YOU! Your membership and support of AAD makes all the difference in the world...giving AAD the opportunity to speak for you and the deaf/hard of hearing community.

With that in mind, the conference has many workshops that can help you to make a difference and embrace change! So let's gather together and come up with ideas of how we can support each other...and together visualize how AAD can change the future for generations to come. And...whether you stop me to just say "Hi!", or for a longer chat, or even to give feedback—I'm here for YOU! YOU are the backbone of the conference! The support you have given AAD in the last two years towards this conference is recognized and appreciated.

Special thanks go to members of my committee, without whom there would have been no conference! Thanks also to St. John's Church for the Deaf...a group of wonderful people who have given me support throughout the conference planning. They kept me going when I thought I couldn't, even helping me on occasion to stuff envelopes with AAD newsletters! Special thanks also to my boss, Steve Hamerdinger, for his infinite patience, wisdom, and understanding. Last, but not least, thanks to my wonderful parents, Howard and Penny Reese...who have managed to keep me sane for many years...especially this one! They really helped me see the light at the end of the tunnel every time I felt like throwing in the towel. Thank you, Mom and Dad! Love ya both!

Have a fantastic time at the conference; enjoy yourselves!

Shannon

Shannon E. Reese, 2007 AAD Conference Chair



2007 AAD Conference Committees

Banquet - Becky Ripley
Phillip and Lynda Magouirk
Linda Harkins

MDAP Pageant - Tammie Kelley

Program Book - Donald Barnes/Shannon Reese

Door Prizes - Shannon Reese/Becky Smith

Entertainment - Judith M. Gilliam

Interpreting Services - Dawn Marren

Workshops - Liz Hill/Shannon Reese

Website & A/V - Matt Kochie/Shannon Reese

Exhibits/Vendors/Ads - Lizabeth Grover

Registration - Flo Vance, Chair

Billy Vance

Ken and Melissa Irving

Lynette Linker


PowerPoint Presentation - Kayleen Pugh

Conference Treasurer - Harvey Brasher

Fundraising - Evon Black/Shannon Reese

Silent Auction - Shannon Reese/Carol Smith

Sponsorships - Judith M. Gilliam



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Ted Fagan President	Eunice Dover Vice President	Anne Clower Secretary	Zelma Fagan Treasurer
------------------------	--------------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------

Joan Jordan, Social Director

Birmingham Chapter of Alabama Association of the Deaf

Wishes

Alabama Association of the Deaf Conference 2007

A Huge Success!

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

Birmingham Chapter of Alabama Association of the Deaf



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TTY 205-967-1437

Meets Every First Saturday of Each Month

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President	Vice President	Secretary	Treasurer	Social Director
Boncur2	kelleyandlillie	Learnold	harvjuli	Vcrocker5879
@aol.com	@bellsouth.net	@aol.com	@bellsouth.net	@charter.com

Everybody Is Welcome!

Convention History			
	Year	Convention Site	Chairperson
October 4	1912	YMCA- Birmingham	
July 4-5	1913	YMCA- Birmingham	
July 4-5	1916	ASD- Talladega	
July 1-3	1920	City Auditorium- Montgomery	
July 6-8	1922	YMCA- Mobile	
July 23-26	1924	Chamber of Commerce- Birmingham	
July 20-23	1927	Chamber of Commerce- Birmingham	
September 1-3	1930	ASD- Talladega	
July 2-4	1936	YMCA- Mobile	D'Aray Wilson
September 8-10	1939	ASD- Talladega	
September 3-6	1948	Birmingham Club of the Deaf	
July 1-3	1950	Birmingham Club of the Deaf	
July 3-6	1952	ASD- Talladega	
July 3-4	1954	ASD- Talladega	
July 5-7	1956	Cawthon Hotel- Mobile	Ben King
July 3-5	1958	ASD- Talladega	
June 3-5	1960	ASD- Talladega	
August 2-4	1962	Thomas Jefferson Hotel- Birmingham	
June 13-15	1963	Whitley Hotel- Montgomery	
June 17-19	1965	Admiral Semmes Hotel- Mobile	Eugene Turk
	1967	Carriage Inn- Huntsville	Thomas Wheeler
June 12-14	1969	ASD- Talladega	Charles Chappell
June 17-19	1971	Thomas Jefferson Hotel- Birmingham	
June 14-16	1973	Admiral Semmes Hotel- Mobile	Joseph Onderdonk
	1975	Downtowner Motor Inn- Montgomery	Flora Garrett
June 13-16	1977	Quality Inn- Birmingham	
June 14-16	1979	Carriage Inn- Huntsville	James Arthur
June 18-20	1981	Mobile Hilton- Mobile	Peggy Turk
June 16-18	1983	Lakepoint Resort- Eufaula	Benjie Estes
June 20-22	1985	Stratford Inn- Tuscaloosa	Kenneth Owens
June 11-13	1987	Gulf Shores State Park- Gulf Shores	Joseph Onderdonk
June 22-24	1989	Holiday Inn Park- Huntsville	Jean Walker
June 6-8	1991	ASD- Talladega	Myra Gordon
June 24-26	1993	Radisson Hotel- Birmingham	Gay McClendon
June 15-17	1995	Ramada Conference Center- Mobile	Jimmy Peterson
June 19-21	1997	Governor's House Hotel- Montgomery	Peggy Estes
June 3-6	1999	Holiday Inn- Oxford	Gloria Chappell
June 21-23	2001	Holiday Inn-Huntsville	Jerry Smith
June 6-7	2003	Hilton Birmingham Perimeter Park	Gay McClendon
June 2-4	2005	The Hotel at Auburn University- Auburn	Myra Gordon
June 14-17	2007	Hilton Birmingham Perimeter Park	Shannon Reese

2007	Thursday June 14	Friday June 15	Saturday June 16	Sun Jun 17
7:30 am – 8:30 am		Breakfast	Breakfast (on your own)	
8:30 am – 9:45 am		Keynote Speaker Claudia Gordon “Embracing the Future: Make a Difference!”	Workshops-theater style A) DeafDoc B) Take CHARGE! Be Ready for Anything! By Evon Black & Hal Suddreth C) Domestic Violence by Beth Metlay	Depart!
9:45 am – 10:00 am		Break	Break	
10 am – 11:30 am	COSDA General meeting	Workshops A) Sorenson Relay Services by Eric Emmons B) Mental Illness & Its Stigma by Wendy Lozyn- sky C) Sprint Relay Game Show by Evon Black	Workshops D) Skydiving by Billy Vance E) Stampin Up! By Stacie Yar- borough F) Parliamentary Procedure by Libby Pollard G) Youth Leadership by Tawny Holmes	
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	Luncheon/ Awards	Lunch (on your own)	Lunch	

60th Annual Dixie Deaf Bowling Association & 43rd Annual Dixie Deaf Women Bowling Association

hosted by:
Greater Birmingham Association of the Deaf, Inc.

Birmingham, Alabama

May 28-30, 2010

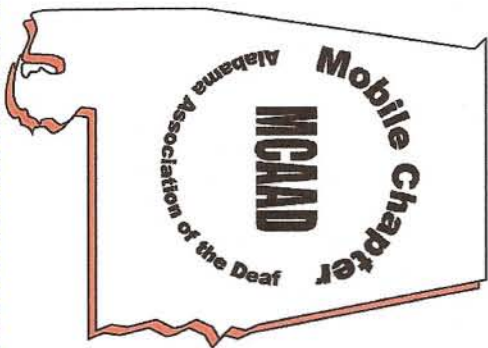
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Friday	\$15.00
Saturday	\$90.00
Sunday	\$100.00
Grand Ball	+\$3000
Total	\$900.00
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DIXIE 2010 FAN COMBO	
May 28, 2009 to December 31, 2009	<del>\$295</del>
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January 1, 2008 to December 31, 2008	\$45.00
January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009	\$55.00

Chairperson: Tom Daugherty, TDD, FAX or VP (205) 608-2165, Email - TDMD6873@aol.com  
Co Chairperson: Teresia Wiley, TDD or VP (205) 647-0556, Email - TWiley30@Bellsouth.net

### WELCOME TO THE 2007 AAD CONVENTION



Have a good time  
&  
Have a safe trip back home

Mobile Chapter  
Alabama Association for the Deaf  
Mobile, AL

Lizabeth Grover-President  
Beth Knapp-Vice President  
Diana Bedgood-Secretary  
Chris Mety-Treasurer

# TALLADEGA CLUB/CHAPTER OF THE DEAF

Proudly announces a new home base on 1200 Ft. Lashley Ave.

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We will be open during ASD's homecoming event on October 20, 2007 and all of ASD's home games and other events.

Rooms can be reserved for special occasions such as class reunions, parties, etc.

Details will be given later.



For further information, contact

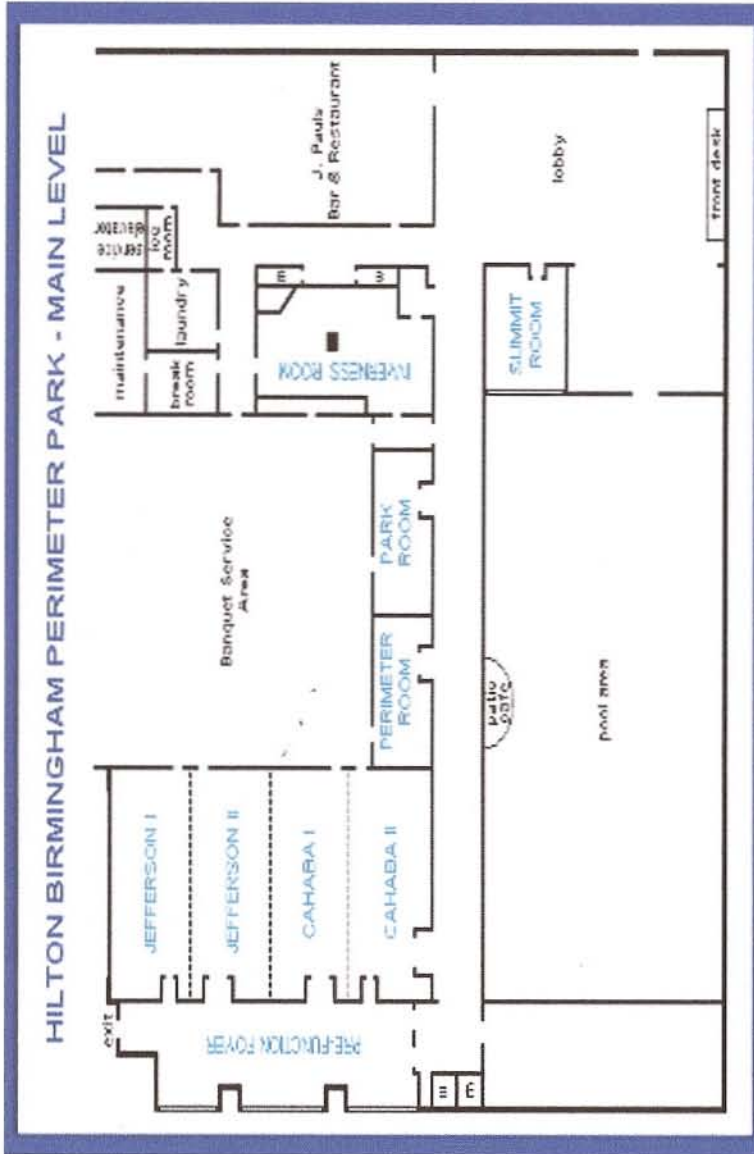
Burford Gilliam, President  
Charlie Chappell, Vice President  
Al Deuel, Secretary  
Butch Roebuck, Treasurer

tgilliam@charter.net  
chappell@charter.net  
adeuel@charter.net  
broebuck@charter.net



1:00 pm – 2:30 pm		Forum Social Services: Where Do We Go From Here? By Steve Hamerdinger	AAD Business Meeting Libby	
2:30 pm – 3:00 pm		Break	Break	
3:00 pm – 4:30 pm		<u>Workshops</u> A) DeafDoc B) Parliamentary Procedure by Libby Pollard C) Services for Older Alabamians with Vision Loss by Julie Brock & Jane Bush D) ASLTA by Charlene Crump	AAD meeting (continued)	
4:30 pm – 7:00 pm	AAD Executive Board Meeting	Dinner on own		
7:00 pm	Opening Reception/Dingo OR Showing of PBS Documentary "Through Deaf Eyes"	Miss Deaf Alabama Pageant/Silent Auction Tawny/Josh MC	Entertainment/Awards Dinner from 7-10 pm Entertainer: Rosa Lee	
9:30 pm	Social	Social	Social	





**Congratulations**  
and  
**Best Wishes**

to the

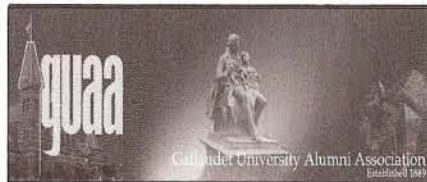
**Alabama Association  
of The Deaf Inc.**

onfor

***41st A.A.D. Conference***

from

**Huntsville Chapter  
A.A.D.**



### Gallaudet University Alumni Association Alabama Chapter

Want to know more about Gallaudet?

Please see one of the following officers:

**Shannon Reese**, President: [fitdeaf@aol.com](mailto:fitdeaf@aol.com)

**Liz Hill**, Vice-President: [lizhill27@charter.net](mailto:lizhill27@charter.net)

**Jay L. Croft**, Secretary: [jlcroft@juno.com](mailto:jlcroft@juno.com)

**Buford Gilliam**, Treasurer: [fbgilliam@charter.net](mailto:fbgilliam@charter.net)

**Best wishes for a successful conference!**



**ADRS: Mr. Melvin Walker—Ms. Belinda  
Montgomery**

### Deaf Access, Inc.

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## Thank You!

to ADRS, ODS, AIDB, and ALRID,  
who donated interpreters for the  
conference!

Thank You!

to the interpreters who  
contributed their time and  
skills!

Look for



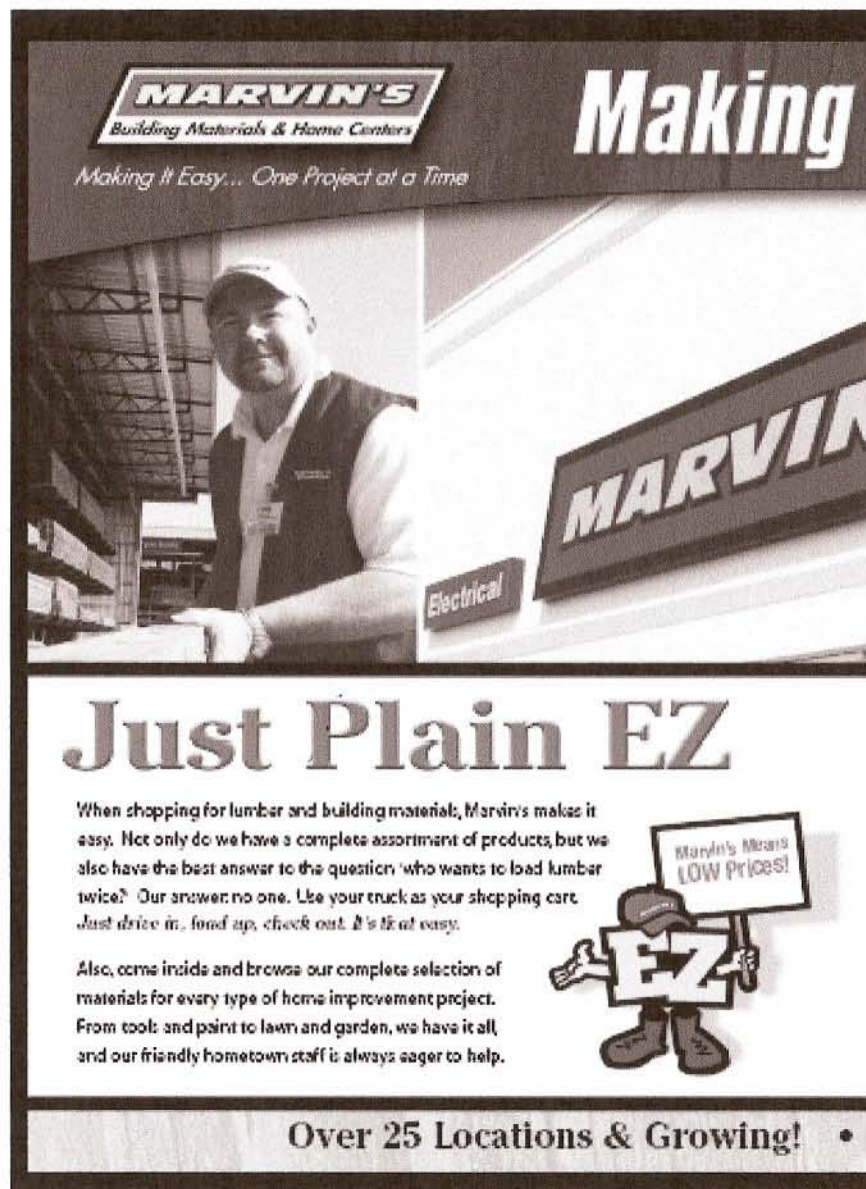
to learn who volunteered and  
to thank them!

For the use of their AV Equipment, **thank you**  
to ADRS, JCCD, DMHODS, and EH Gentry!

**Thanks!** to our wonderful sponsors...  
who helped made this conference possible!

- Sprint
- Alabama Ear Institute
  - Verizon
- E.H. Gentry/AIDB Regional Centers
- Alabama Association of the Deaf Chapters:  
Huntsville—Birmingham—Talladega  
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## of the Deaf Officers

### AAD Executive Board and Chapter Presidents 2007



Lizabeth Grover  
Mobile



Liz Hill  
Montgomery



Karen Campbell  
ALRID



Evon Black  
Member at  
Large / Affiliates



Tammy Kelley  
Miss Deaf AL  
Pageant Director



Shannon Reese  
Publicity Director



#### ALRID

**Ms. Karen McClean—Ms. Nancy Hayes  
Ms. Frances Smallwood**

Thank you to **Buford Gilliam, Rann Gordon, and Jerry Smith** for helping out with DINGO, breakfast on Friday morning and lunch on Saturday, plus other "odds and ends" jobs as needed!

## Alabama Association

### AAD Executive Board and Chapter Presidents 2007



Judith Gilliam  
President



Michael Deuel  
Vice-President



Flo Vance  
Secretary



Rann Gordon  
Treasurer



Jerry Smith  
Huntsville



Buford Gilliam  
Talladega



Charles Burney  
Birmingham



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Tuscaloosa

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Donald Barnes,  
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## Our 2007 AAD Key Note Speaker



### Claudia L. Gordon

Department of Homeland Security  
Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties

Ms. Gordon, the first known Black deaf female attorney in the United States is a Senior Policy Advisor with the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (CRCL). She provides policy advice within CRCL. Ms. Gordon also provides leadership and oversight regarding governmental activities with respect to emergency preparedness and people with disabilities. She specifically manages the Interagency Coordinating Council on Emergency Preparedness and Individuals with Disabilities, which was created by Executive Order 13347 – "Individuals with Disabilities in Emergency Preparedness."

The creativity and quality of her work has earned her several honors such as the Secretary's Gold Medal Award – by DHS Secretary Michael Chertoff. This honor highlights Ms. Gordon's exceptional outstanding leadership efforts on behalf of people with disabilities in the Gulf Coast Regions during the impact of Hurricane Katrina. Prior to joining DHS in 2003, Ms. Gordon received the prestigious Skadden Fellowship that allowed her to work as a staff attorney with the National Association of the Deaf Law Center.

She is active in a number of disability-oriented organizations, boards, and advisory groups and frequently presents on disability policy issues. The Jamaica native is a graduate of Howard University and American University's Washington College of Law.



# Homeland Security



COUNCIL OF ORGANIZATIONS SERVING DEAF ALABAMIANS  
*Advocacy . . . Cooperation . . . Networking*

# COSDA

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## What is COSDA?

COSDA is a consortium of Alabama agencies and organizations whose mission is service to individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing; or programs with broader missions that have an identifiable, significant component of services to deaf and/or hard of hearing individuals.

## The Goals of COSDA are to....

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- o Establish a list of prioritized goals for concerted actions
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- o Recognize individuals or agencies performing outstanding service to deaf or hard of hearing persons

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## 2007 CONFERENCE PRESENTERS/ENTERTAINERS



**Eric Emmons** is Regional Sales Manager of Central U.S. at Sorenson Communications. He oversees outreach activities and manages a group of trainers, area specialists, and outreach managers in 14 states. Prior to joining Sorenson Communications in 2003, he owned and managed an Information Technology company and was a licensed real estate agent. He currently resides in Austin, TX. (see page 36 for workshop!)

### Office of Deaf Services ALDMH/MR Ms. Dawn Marren



**Evon Black** was born and raised in the small town of Blytheville, Arkansas. She has 4 brothers and a sister, and is the youngest and only deaf sibling in her family. She graduated from Arkansas School for the Deaf in 1981, then went on to Gallaudet University, receiving her BS degree in Psychology in 1987 and her Master's Degree in Educational Technology in 1996.

Evon has worked primarily in the Deaf student development area for about 22 years...ranging from Deaf residential schools to Gallaudet University. Prior to working with Sprint as Alabama Relay Account Manager, she was the Senior Admissions Counselor and handled 21 states for National Technical Institute for the Deaf. For more than 18 years, she has been a performer and national motivational speaker. Evon have been an active organizational member, holding various positions with the National Black Deaf Advocates (NBDA) for 19 years. She currently resides in Birmingham with a precious 11 year old son, affectionately known as "DJ"!





**Steve Hamerdinger** has been the Director of the Office of Deaf Services at the Alabama Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation since January, 2003. Before this he was the Director of the Office of Deaf and Linguistic Support Services at the Missouri Department of Mental Health, a position he held for more than 9 years. Mr. Hamerdinger has an M.A. in Counseling of the Deaf from Gallaudet University. He owns and operates a mental health consulting firm that provides consultation and training on mental health and deafness nationally. He has been an adjunct faculty member of several college programs and a visiting lecturer at the University of Missouri and the University of Kansas. He was the first Reba Hill Memorial Lecturer on Pediatrics at the Baylor University Medical School. In addition to his expertise in deafness and mental health, Steve is a well-know motivational speaker and entertainer. He lives in Montgomery with an ever changing menagerie of four-footed companions!

#### AIDB Regional Centers

**Ms. Jennifer Harbison (Birmingham)**

**Ms. Cheryl Willis (Dothan)**



**Elizabeth "Libby" Pollard** has been involved as an officer with many local, state and national organizations for the last 35 years. In 1994, Libby was elected to the National Association of the Deaf (NAD) Region I Board Member seat. Four years later, she was elected President of NAD and was re-elected for another two years in 2000. Libby is a member of American Institute of Parliamentarians and National Association of Parliamentarians. Since leaving the NAD, she has served as parliamentarian for national, state and local organizations, and hosted many parliamentary and leadership training/workshops.



**Julia Brock** is Program Coordinator of the Older Alabamians System of Information and Services Program for the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services. She is responsible for planning and implementing services to Alabamians who are age 55 and over and blind or visually impaired through Alabama's Title VII Chapter 2 Program. Mrs. Brock earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Jacksonville State University and the Master of Arts from the University of Alabama. She has completed the Geriatric Core Curriculum at the University of Alabama in Birmingham. Additionally, she has completed graduate work in the fields of counseling and adult education at the University of Alabama.



**Tawny Holmes** has been heavily involved with Deaf youth leadership since 1998, from being a guest speaker to a mentor/advisor. She works with Deaf youth leadership camps...NAD Youth Leadership Camp and National Leadership and Literacy Camp... as a staff member and administrator. Currently she is the Youth Programs Assistant at the NAD headquarters and chair of the Youth Programs cluster under the NAD Board. She enters law school this fall, specializing in Deaf Education Advocacy.



**Jane M. Bush** serves as Rehabilitation Teacher for the Older Alabamians System of Information and Services Program for the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services. She is responsible for service to blind or visually impaired seniors in Jefferson County. Mrs. Bush earned the Bachelor of Science from Auburn University. She is certified as a Vision Rehabilitation Therapist through the Academy for Certification of Vision Rehabilitation & Education Professionals. Mrs. Bush has served as Independent Living Skills Instructor, Vocational Evaluator, Case Manager, and Director of Case Management for Easter Seals Occupational Rehabilitation Center. She is also a member of the Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired, Alabama Council of the Blind, and Older Alabamians System of Information and Services Advisory Council.





**Stacie Yarbough** is a certified interpreter at AIDB's Huntsville Regional Center. In her spare time she enjoys being a Stampin Up! Demonstrator teaching others the art of paper crafts. She is married and has four children at home ranging from ages 6-15.

Paper Crafts! Ever wondered how they make all those wonderful projects on those craft shows? Stacie is ready to show you some of the latest techniques in rubber stamping. You will get hands on experience making items you take home and use! Projects include scrapbook embellishments, 3-D crafts and greeting cards. This class has a \$10 fee payable at the door. The fee covers all "Make and Take" project materials, instruction and technique pamphlet. For information on additional techniques or projects you can reach Stacie at [stampaddict@knology.net](mailto:stampaddict@knology.net).



**Billy Vance** started skydiving in 1993 and has made over 1250 jumps to date, including demonstration jumps into Legion Field, Alabama Adventure (formerly Visionland) in Bessemer, Wald Park in Vestavia Hills, the Shelby County Airport's Wings and Wheels Air Show, and the Alabama School for the Deaf. He also co-organized successful Deaf World Record events in 2001, 2003 and 2005 and holds numerous state records. Billy attended high school in Huntsville, AL and NTID in Rochester, NY. He has an Associate's Degree in Architecture, and lives in Riverside with his wife Flo and baby girl Sami.



**Rosa Lee** is a performance artist and instructor who has been involved with a variety of theatre arts projects over the past twelve years. "R" is her second woman show and opened in 2006. Her first one-woman show, "The Unseen", was performed in front of thousands of hearing and Deaf onlookers all over the country to rave reviews. Rosa Lee incorporates all aspects of her artistic talents and her experiences

as a Deaf woman from a Deaf family into her shows, which include music, video, and performance art. Currently, she lives in New England with her two cats and her partner in crime.



**Carolyn R. Stern MD**, an inspiring and energetic speaker, is a Board Certified Family Physician. Born deaf due to maternal rubella, she subsequently lost the rest of her hearing in 1990. In her many years of clinical practice, she has worked with

thousands of Deaf and Hard of Hearing (D/HOH) patients as well as the extended D/HOH community. Dr. Stern encourages others to think "out of the box" with regard to people with disabilities, while maintaining a good sense of humor. She presents extensively in the D/HOH and general community as a role model, mentor and educator. She serves as a consultant to Federal, State and local organizations as well as internationally. Recently, she presented in China at the Tianjin University of Technology/Pen International: All-China Higher Special Education Conference on "Healthcare and the Deaf Postsecondary Student: Observations and Educational Impact." In Japan, she testified before the Ministry of Health and Welfare, advocating for the rights of Japanese Deaf to become licensed health care professionals. Dr. Stern has co-authored an article on "Preventive Attitudes and Beliefs of Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Individuals", in the Archives of Family Medicine. In 1998, she moved to Rochester, NY and now works as Medical Director of Rochester School for the Deaf (RSD). Her current ambitious project involves her website! She is devoted to providing health education and training in an American Sign Language (ASL) friendly format. She seeks to reduce healthcare disparities and improve the health status of those who are Deaf, and works diligently to improve provider-patient communication and cultural competency by providing effective training and resources. Dr. Stern is committed to increasing the medical knowledge base of interpreters, while striving for a higher standard of interpreters in medical settings. She graduated Cum Laude from Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio, and received her MD from Northwestern University Medical School, Chicago, completing Family Medicine Residency at Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge, Illinois. She and her husband and 3 children live in Rochester, NY.

<http://deafdoc.org/carolyn.php>





**Charlene Crump, B.S., CI/CT, ASLTA-Q, QMHI**, is the statewide Mental Health Interpreter Coordinator for the Office of Deaf Services, Alabama Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation. In this capacity, Ms. Crump has been responsible for developing the Alabama Mental Health Interpreter Training initiative and developing standards for mental health interpreting that have been adopted by DMHMR and Alabama State Code. Her work in Mental Health Interpreter training has received national recognition, including the National Alliance of Mentally Ill (NAMI). She created and operates TERPINFO, DEAFSERVICES, and ALMHI listservs focusing on interpreter issues, and moderates a monthly online discussion forum related to current research in mental health and deafness/interpreting through Jacksonville State University's distance program. Charlene is an Adjunct Instructor, teaching sign language classes at Auburn University at Montgomery and community classes with AIDB in Montgomery. She currently serves as president of the Alabama Chapter of the American Sign Language Teacher's Association (ASLTA). Additionally, she served a six-year term with the first cohort appointed to the Alabama Licensure Board of Interpreters and Translators, serving two terms as Chair. Charlene is a contributor to the National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID) Standard Practice Paper focusing on Mental Health Interpreting and has served on expert focus groups including work with Northeastern University in establishment of a graduate level certificate program for mental health interpreting. She is a Local Testing Administrator for the RID Testing System, RID Certificate Maintenance Program (CMP) Administrator and serves as the Sign Language Proficiency Interview (SLPI) coordinator for the department.



**Wendy Lozynsky** is the Regional Coordinator, Region II, for the Office of Deaf Services in Huntsville. Previously, she worked as Coordinator for Deaf/HH Children Services with Mental Health in Fayetteville, NC. She was also a Psychosocial Rehabilitation Social Worker in Raleigh, NC. Wendy received some of her early trainings as a Mental Health Counselor in South Carolina. She graduated with a BA from Gallaudet University and her Master of Social Work from the University of Tennessee.



**Hal Suddreth** grew up in North Carolina, having graduated from North Carolina School for the Deaf (NCSD) in 1982. He has been a lifeguard for 10 years, rescued two people and prevented accidents at pools and several other bodies of water. As a Boy Scout, he was trained to be prepared for any emergency situation. After graduating from NCSD he enrolled in National Technical Institute of the Deaf in Rochester, NY to study in Civil Engineering. While he was at NTID, he took PE courses in Ranger ROTC, where students learned to respond to any emergency situation. He left Rochester, NY in 1984 to attend the Birmingham Bible School for the Deaf in Birmingham, AL. Upon graduation in 1987, Hal moved to Atlanta, GA to work as a minister. In 1999 Hal returned to Birmingham, AL to serve as a minister and Dean of Students. Hal became a member of the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) after intense training in 2005. Thanks to the CERT training, he has helped several people in emergency situations. Now Hal is a CERT instructor, training deaf people to also become members. Hal is a single parent with three children: Luke, 15, Tori, 12, and Jeremiah, who is 6.



**Beth Anne Metlay** is currently working for Dept of Mental Health/ Mental Retardation, Office of Deaf Services as a Regional Coordinator for Region IV. She graduated from Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf and then enrolled in National Technical Institute for the Deaf, majoring in social work. She moved to Houston, Texas to work as peer counselor at Houston Center for Independent Living and then as Life Skill Instructor for Deaf/Blind program. She received a job offer as senior counselor at an adult group home for DePaul Mental Health Service so she decided to move back to Rochester, NY. Her next position was at Hillside Children's Center as a sociotherapist. She became active in the Deaf Community in a variety of roles; she is one of the co-founders of Advocacy Services for Abused Deaf Victims and has been doing volunteer work for 8 years. Beth Anne enjoys presenting at various Deaf Community groups, and is the proud mother of three daughters, Maxine, 18 and twins Katharine and Robynne, 17!